

## DEATHS IN MISSOURI IN 1912 AGGREGATED 42,222

**Births Totaled 75,456—Springfield, in Proportion to Population, Leads Both Columns**

Jefferson City, Mo., April 3.—Deaths in Missouri during 1912 were 42,222, and the births 75,456. The death rate was lower than during 1911 and there was a slight increase in births over the previous year. There were 680 suicides, of which 260 occurred in St. Louis. The deaths in 1911 were 43,390.

These facts are continued in the report of Dr. Frank B. Hiller, secretary of the State Board of Health, made to Gov. Major, today.

Dr. Hiller notes that the birth rate in St. Louis shows a decrease over 1911. He says that the city reported 10,607, death and 14,622 births in 1912, while the previous year recorded 10,775 deaths and 15,001 births. Tuberculosis caused 4900 deaths last year. It being the second largest cause of deaths. In St. Louis 1111 persons died of tuberculosis of all kinds and 1837 of heart troubles.

For the year there were 2219 deaths, resulting from accidents in this state. Of this number 539 occurred in St. Louis.

Springfield shows the highest death rate according to population, of any city in the state, or a rate of 17.72 per 1000 population. That city had also the highest birth rate, the total births being 841, or 23.89 per 1000 population.

### WHAT TO PRINT

There are events occurring in every community which, if reported in a local paper, would create a commotion little dreamed of. What to report and what not to report often perplexes the editor. He is often unjustly accused of cowardice and favoritism, when all the time he is looking toward the good reputation of the town where his lot is cast to stay, says the Simpson Times.

Then don't report them. Rumors, gossip, scandals, have no place in the local paper. Infractions of the moral code, breaches of communal etiquette, lapses from sobriety and the minor related items of street corner discussion and sub rosa discourse are not matters for the editor to concern himself professionally. Let him take the court dockets for his guide. Court matters are public matters and privileged. Private matters with which the courts have not dealt should be avoided by the local editor. The people who take his paper and pay for it are entitled to the news, but not to the gossip. The paper must maintain its dignity even at the expense of its wish to be interesting.—Dallas News.

J. W. Armstrong went to Pryor Creek, Ok., Sunday night to attend the funeral of his brother, George Armstrong.

Matt Butler, Misses Manda Butler, Genevieve Evans and Sarah Watson motored to Sarcoxie, Sunday.

Grant Rolleg is visiting his wife here before leaving for Illinois where he will play ball this season.

Mrs. C. C. Crouse, of Peirce City, who has been ill for some time, has gone to Hot Springs, Ark., for the benefit of her health.

V. C. Clinton and children went to Carthage Sunday to attend the ball game between Carthage and Burlington. The score was 3 to 0 in favor of Burlington.

Harry Matthews' son Willie fell Saturday and broke his arm. The boy has been very unfortunate this being the sixth time he has had such an accident, each time in a different place.

Tom Dewine has returned from a visit at Fayetteville.

### BIRTHDAY PARTY

Ruth Johnson entertained a few friends Saturday afternoon in honor of her tenth birthday at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. M. W. Christopher. Miss Ruth Bradford assisted Mrs. Christopher in entertaining the little girls.

A dainty little lunch of ice cream and cake was served to the following: Margaret Chapell, Ruth Sizer, Kathryn and Hortense Dwyer, Charlotte and Elizabeth Bradford, Ruth Mahoney, Thelma Williams, Pauline Gabriel, Ruth Fly, Virginia Folger, Jessie, Bessie and Eugenia Colbert, Thelma Matthews, Crystal Spratley, Mildred Keithley, Florence O'Brien, Blanche Odell, Nina Pugh, Laura and Louise Rice, Kathleen Walker, Laura and Lucile St. Louis, Mary and Shirley Barnsley, Kittie Belle and Winnie Taylor, Kit Carson, Ruth Sater, Josephine Martin, Ethel King, Maud Simons, Anna and Kathryn Jerome, Edwin Jerome, Ralland and Clifford Ellis, Glen Beaty and Cleo Johnson.

### SURPRISE PARTY

The many friends of Miss Mildred Callaway gave her a very pleasant surprise Saturday evening, April 5th it being the occasion of her thirteenth birthday anniversary. The fair little ladies met at the home of E. S. Wilson on Central avenue and marched in a body, about fifty strong to the Callaway home, where the evening was spent at music and games.

Miss Norine Wilson, in behalf of the company, presented Miss Mildred with a beautiful gold pendant as a token of their friendship. Miss Mildred responded in a pleasing manner, expressing her surprise and appreciation of the beautiful gift.

A guessing contest was the feature of the evening in which Jessie Belle Wilson, Ruth Feist and Kittie Belle Taylor won the honors, and were presented with bouquets of carnations. Misses Pauline Simons, Fern Jones and Juanita Otterman rendered piano solos which were enjoyed by all present.

A delicious two course lunch was served after which the young folks departed for their homes wishing Miss Mildred many more happy birthdays.

### ANOTHER BIRTHDAY PARTY

Paul Smith entertained his friends Saturday afternoon from 3 to 6 o'clock, that day being his birthday. His guests were Elizabeth Boyer, Ruth Breese, Anna Mulloy, Marie Ryan, Clare Holland, Marjorie Pfau, Gladys Holland, Lorene Tucker, Agnes and Gertrude Maher, Josephine Tucker, Josephine Martin, Virginia Patterson, Ruth and Thelma Schelin, Laneta Randall, Mary Heyburn, Margaret Walsh, Junior Schelin, Kenneth Ogden, Bill Oliver, Robert and Paul Holland, Francis Walner, Madge Buler, Joseph Callan, Paul Pinnel, Louis McKenna, Howard Dundas, Dan Taylor, Frank Boynton, John and George Johnston, Lillian and Rose Smith and Mrs. E. M. Schelin.

Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Chapman, who have been living here several months, will leave this week for Memphis, Tenn., where Mr. Chapman has a good position.

John and Joseph Cahalan, of Peirce City, visited their uncle, John Moody, east of town, Sunday.

The Davis & Chapell Hardware Co., sold several fine John Deere buggies Saturday. A good days work.

Mrs. C. R. Ellis returned to her home at Pittsburg, Kan., Sunday after a visit with her son Frank and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Overton and family, who had been visiting relatives in Monett, returned to their home in Fayetteville, Ark., Monday morning.

John T. Wilkerson, of Fort Smith, Ark., visited his father, D. Wilkerson, Monday.

## WHEAT FINE IN MISSOURI

**The Present Condition of the Crop Is the Highest Ever Reported**

Columbia, Mo., April 5.—The winter wheat condition in this state is 56.6, the highest ever reported, and 18.8 per cent higher than a year ago, according to the state crop report, issued today by T. C. Wilson, secretary of the state board of agriculture.

Many correspondents report the prospects for wheat the best they have ever known. There was practically no winter killing and but little damage from the Hessian fly. A few counties in the eastern half of the state report some. The plant has made a vigorous growth and in many fields will now "hide a rabbit."

Estimates indicate that 32 per cent of last year's corn crop of 243 million bushels is still in farmer's hands and 28 per cent of plowing for corn is done, compared with 10 per cent a year ago.

The outlook for fruit is one of the best in the history of the state except for some of the commercial varieties of apples. The condition of the fruit crop generally is estimated at 95.

The shortage of all classes of live stock continues. The number of hogs on feed, as compared with April 1, 1912, is estimated at 75 per cent; cattle, 74 per cent. There is but 70 per cent as much cholera now as a year ago. In a few counties, however, there is no decrease in the disease.

Leslie Jackson visited in Carthage, Sunday.

Master Bill Ash is improving from a severe illness.

Chas. Miller, of Carthage, spent Sunday with friends here.

Miss Daisy Dunn visited in Sarcoxie, Sunday.

Harve Aten, of north of Peirce City, is moving to Girard, Kan.

Wm. Henry, of Neodesha, Kan., visited his family here Sunday.

C. L. Jerome, of Joplin, was in the city Sunday.

J. D. Carter will leave tonight for a trip in the West.

J. H. Otterman went to Cassville on business Monday.

Mrs. Pickel, of Mansfield, is visiting her brother, L. B. Durnil.

Miss Inez Douglas and Ollie Davis attended the ball game in Peirce City, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Raupp, of Peirce City, visited Dr. and Mrs. W. M. West, Sunday.

Miss Bessie Willis, of Ash Grove, is visiting Miss Olive Armstrong.

Mr. Reardon, of Peirce City, drove to Monett Monday morning.

Mrs. Jack Burke, of Springfield, spent Sunday with Mrs. Ida Downs.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Duncan, of Peirce City, visited here Saturday evening.

Oliver Gillick, George Shaffer, W. S. Lewis and son spent Sunday at Granby.

Miss Lulu McKinney spent Sunday with Miss Anna Reddington in the country.

J. L. Mace, C. Collins and Fred Kaase enjoyed an outing at Ritchey Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Jerome, of Peirce City, spent Sunday with friends in Monett.

F. M. Baity, who had been in the hospital at St. Louis, returned home Monday.

Frank Dewine returned Monday noon from a visit to relatives in Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Amos Gurley, of Purdy, were visitors in Springfield, Monday.

Frank DeGroat, Frank Mills, Misses Olive Armstrong and Bessie Willis picnicked at Pioneer Sunday.

Mrs. Lake went to Poplar Bluff Saturday night to be with her sister, Mrs. Clay Ambrose, who is to undergo an operation.

## WHAT THE LEGISLATURE DID

**For The Public Schools Of Missouri—Some of the More Important Measures.**

The Forty-seventh general assembly enacted more laws looking to the encouragement and aid of the public schools of the state than any previous legislature in recent years. Among many good measures we mention the following:

### DISTRICTS MAY VOTE FREESCHOOL BOOKS.

Under a law passed by the 47th general assembly school districts may vote from its contingent fund to provide the children of the district free school books. This will give those communities where a sentiment exists in favor of free text books the privilege of putting the theory into practice.

### STATE AID FOR WEAK SCHOOLS.

Some idea of the immense possibilities of the law for state aid for weak schools may be had from the fact that in Missouri there are 4,411 districts in which the school term is less than eight months. For the relief of these districts, and in order to give their children an equal chance with those in more fortunate localities, the Missouri legislature set aside sufficient funds to enable any district which is willing to comply with certain conditions to increase the term to eight months. One condition is that a levy of 65c on the \$100 be voted. Another is that the assessed valuation be not more than \$50,000. A copy of this law may be had by addressing State Superintendent Evans at Jefferson City, Mo.

### STATE AID FOR RURAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

The number of rural high schools in Missouri will be materially increased by a law enacted at the recent session of the legislature. It provides for a state aid to the amount of \$25,000 per square mile where two or more districts consolidate for the purpose of maintaining such a school. This would yield about three hundred dollars if two districts consolidated; \$350 if three districts consolidated and so on. From this it would be readily seen that the amount received from the state would make it possible for a district to support a high school department without any appreciable burden on the taxpayers. The establishment of rural high schools will do more than any other one thing, unless it be the building of permanent highways, to promote the welfare of rural communities and stop the constant flow of first class families from the farm to educational centers. If the Missouri legislature had done nothing more than enact this law and the law for state aid for weak rural schools it would have been worth ten times its cost to the taxpayers.

A euchre party was held in the St. Lawrence church hall Friday evening, a large crowd being present. Mrs. Thos. Markwell won the ladies prize, a souvenir spoon, and B. Callender the gentleman's prize, a box of cigars.

Since the death of Captain Ritchey of Neosho, it is believed that Miss Mary J. Smith of Kent Park and her brother, Dr. J. R. Smith, the editor of the Record at Stella are the earliest living citizens of Newton county. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Smith came to Newton county from Kentucky in November 1836, when Miss Smith was two years and ten months and the doctor was nine months old. Capt. Ritchey was born August 8, 1836.—Stella Record.

A. Pettefer, of Kirksville, is in the city spending a few days visiting and attending to business matters.

## MARRIAGES.

**Two Couples Wedded by A. G. Walker on Sunday evening.**

On returning home from church Sunday night A. G. Walker was confronted by two couples who were desirous of being married. They were Hugh A. Miller and Miss Lula Miller, Charles Baird and Miss Lois Keithley.

The ceremony was performed at 9:30 o'clock for both couples, in the presence of several friends. The four will leave Thursday for California to remain for some time and possibly to make their home.

The first couple though bearing the same name are not related. Mr. Miller is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Miller and his bride comes here from Aurora. Chas. Baird is a Monett boy and his wife is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Keithly of this place. These are excellent young people and we hope they will find success and happiness in their homes in the west.

### WALTON-WILLIAMS

Edward Walton, of Purdy, and Miss Maud Williams were married Sunday afternoon at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Williams. Rev. W. M. Wainright performed the ceremony. After the newlyweds had received congratulations an excellent dinner was served.

Mr. and Mrs. Walton will make their home on a farm near Butterfield this year, after which they may go to Lincoln, Neb., Mr. Walton's former home.

The wedding guests were Messrs and Mesdames N. Sturgis, A. O. Williams, C. A. Dummit, D. W. Exposito, J. T. Henderson, A. J. Wade, W. M. Wainright and Ernest Dummit.

### CARLIN-BROWNING

Roscoe Carlin and Miss Alla Browning were married Sunday afternoon at the home of the bride's father, Judge W. R. Browning, Rev. W. M. Wainright performing the ceremony. Mr. Carlin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Carlin, of Stones Prairie.

B. J. Hawk, of Cassville, was in Monett on business Tuesday.

Will Ragain, of Purdy, was in town on business, Tuesday.

Miss Schadd and Miss Storck, of Purdy, were shopping here, Monday.

Mrs. Smith Bouldin and Mrs. Will Awland son Burdett visited in Peirce City Tuesday.

W. J. Alderson was called to Joplin Monday by the serious illness of his brother, Jim.

Arthur Fuld, of St. Louis, is in town in the interest of the Levis-Zukoski Millinery Company.

Wm. Smerdon and family are moving to Mrs. Georgia Lewis' property on West County street.

Everett Dehanas and Emmet O'Dwyer were Cassville visitors Sunday.

Mrs. J. A. C. Kellogg returned last week from Webb City, where she spent the winter with her son, Fredrick Kellogg and wife.

Loren Carmack has purchased the W. C. Woods place on West Bond street and is moving there this week.

Mrs. McCraw, of Purdy, and Mrs. Fisher went to Joplin Monday, called by the serious illness of Jas. Alderson.

Mrs. Walter Clark and daughter Crystal, of Fort Smith, Ark., will visit this week with Mrs. Earl Ladd, who is Mrs. Clark's sister.

E. T. Ballard moved this week to J. B. Kirkpatrick's place on County street. Arley Ebright has moved to Hal Kirk's cottage on Benton street vacated by the Ballards.

Mr. Rundell, who had been at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. M. Miller, was taken to his home at Eureka Springs, Ark., Sunday. The old gentleman was taken on a stretcher, having been ill for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Cramer of Joplin, were in Monett, Friday. Emery Medlin, of Macedonia visited in Monett, Saturday.

Mrs. John Walsh is convalescing rapidly from her recent severe illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Emiel Reynaud, from south of town were here shopping, Saturday.

Misses Naomi Bounous and Ida Lautaret, of Stones Prairie, visited in Monett, Saturday.

Mrs. T. L. Breece went to Springfield Friday night for a short visit.

Mrs. J. P. Woods and her sister, Miss Stella Birkes, visited in Springfield Saturday.

Miss Josie Shryock, of Peirce City, visited relatives in Monett, Saturday.

Mrs. W. M. Weaver visited in Springfield this week with Mr. Weaver who has a position there.

Geo. Baldrige has moved to his five acre tract just west of the city limits.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Harmon went to Springfield, Saturday, for a short visit.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stalter and little son, of Joplin, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Walter Draper.

Mrs. Andrew Bankson left today for her home in Joplin after a visit with her mother, Mrs. J. J. Perry.

Miss Dixie Hobbs, who had been visiting her sister, Mrs. Lon Perry, returned to her home in Cassville, Saturday.

H. H. Brown, of Neodesha, Kan., has come to visit over Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Walsh.

Philip Davis, accompanied by R. F. George, of Peirce City, went to Purdy, Saturday, to look after the strawberry interests.

Miss Minnie Richards will leave Sunday for Kansas City, where she goes to take a position in the telephone office.

Mrs. G. M. Woods returned Friday from a visit with her daughter, Mrs. O. H. Lane in Joplin.

Mrs. F. M. Howard went to Springfield Saturday morning to visit her son, Lloyd Howard, who is in a hospital at that place.

In the voting contest at the Gem last night Mrs. Geo. Morrow had first place with 7900 votes and Mrs. Ben Beckham 2nd with 7880.

Mrs. C. L. Jerome and children of Joplin, came Friday evening for a few days visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Christopher and family.

Mrs. T. J. Mulhall, who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Mulhall in east Monett for two or three days, returned Saturday morning to her home in Pittsburg, Kan.

Mrs. W. S. Carlin, of Purdy, Mrs. O. Barker and J. J. Charles went to Webb City Friday night, called by the serious illness of Mrs. J. K. Northeutt.

Joel Bounous, who attends normal school at Springfield, came Friday night to visit over Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Bounous, of Stones Prairie.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Dawson, three miles north east of Monett, Sunday, March 30, a son. Mrs. Dawson is a granddaughter of General Bragg, of confederacy fame.

The remains of the man who was found dead on the Frisco track near Peirce City, Thursday morning, were entered in the Westbay cemetery Friday afternoon. None of his relatives or friends were located.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Pruitt and Mrs. Fred Henke and children started to the Coffey meeting at Grabe church last Friday evening. The horses became unmanageable and tore up the rig and they were obliged to return home. Elmon Tolliver gave them valuable assistance.